

sending an e-mail message from an originator to an e-mail address at an e-mail system server for an e-mail service provider;

determining at the e-mail system server that the e-mail address is undeliverable; returning the undeliverable message to the originator; and

sending the undeliverable e-mail message from the originator to the e-mail forwarding computer whereby the undeliverable message becomes the received message at the e-mail forwarding computer.

REMARKS

I. STATUS OF THE CLAIMS

Claims 1-17 , 19-62 and 64-71 are currently pending in the subject patent application. By the present amendment, claims 18 and 63 have been cancelled without prejudice, claims 1, 19 and 62 have been amended, and independent claims 64-71 have been added to the subject application. It is submitted that no new matter has been added to the subject application.

II. INDICATED ALLOWABILITY OF CLAIMS

Applicant gratefully acknowledges the indicated allowability of claims 4-5, 9-21, 23-26, 30-43, 45, 50-61 and 63 if rewritten into independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Accordingly:

- I. independent claim 1 has been amended to include the recitations of claim 18;
- II. independent claim 62 has been amended to include the recitations of claim 63;
- III. independent claim 64 has been added which includes the recitations of claims 1, 6 and 9;
- IV. independent claim 65 has been added which includes the recitations of claims 1 and 10;
- V. independent claim 66 has been added which includes the recitations of claims 1 and 13;
- VI. independent claim 67 has been added which includes the recitations of claims 1 and 14;

- VII. independent claim 68 has been added which includes the recitations of claims 1 and 15;
- VIII. independent claim 69 has been added which includes the recitations of claims 1 and 20;
- IX. independent claim 70 has been added which includes the recitations of claims 1 and 22; and
- X. independent claim 71 has been added which includes the recitations of claims 1 and 46.

Therefore, it is respectfully submitted that all the above mentioned independent claims (and depending claims 2-17 and 19-61, which depend from claim 1) are now in condition for allowance.

III. DOUBLE PATENTING REJECTION

Claim 1 stands rejected under the judicially created doctrine of double patenting over claim 1 of U.S. Patent No. 6,832,246. It is submitted that claim 1 has been amended to include the recitations of claim 18, which claim 18 has been indicated as containing allowable subject matter, as mentioned above. Accordingly this double patenting is now moot and withdrawal thereof is respectfully requested.

IV. 35 USC §§ 102 and 103 CLAIM REJECTIONS

- a. Claims 1-2 and 22 stand rejected under 35 USC 102(e) in view of U.S. PGPub 20010049745;
- b. Claims 3, 6-8, 27-29 and 47-49 stand rejected under 35 USC 103(a) in view of U.S. PGPub 20010049745 in further view of Official Notice taken by the Examiner; and
- c. Claims 44, 46 and 62 stand rejected under 35 USC 103(a) in view of U.S. PGPub 20010049745.

In view of the aforementioned amendments to independent claims 1 and 62, each of these rejections is now moot and withdrawal thereof is respectfully requested.

III. CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that the pending claims of this application (namely, 1-17, 18-62 and 64-71) are in condition for allowance and favorable action thereon is requested. If the Examiner should have any questions, he is urged to contact the undersigned attorney.

Respectfully submitted,



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